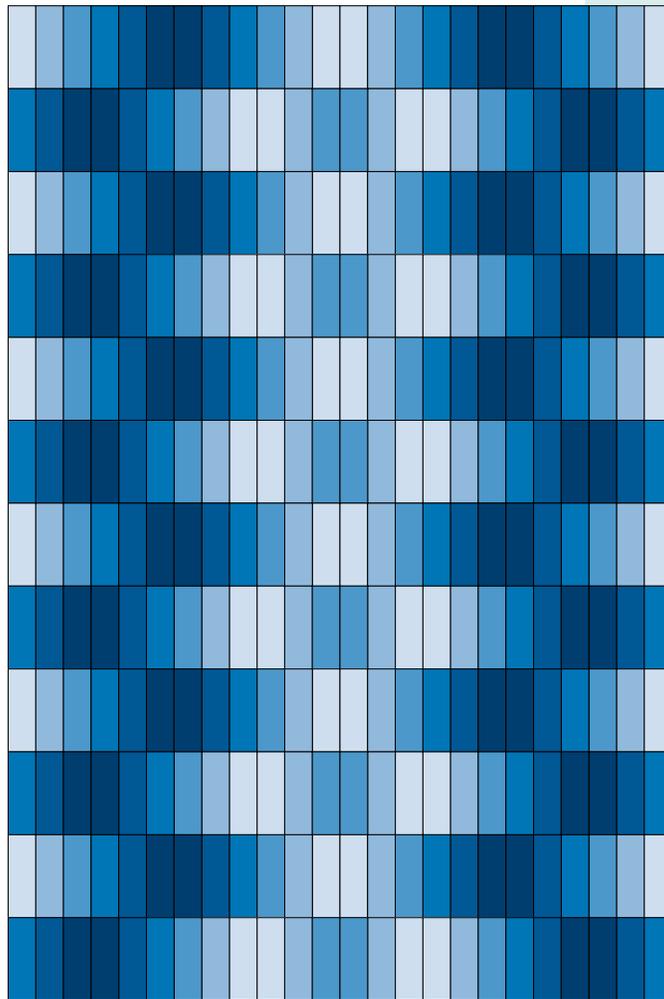


Luster Spectrum

By Julia Graves | Special Occasion Quilts | soquilts.com



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48 x 72" Finished Quilt | 6 x 12" and 6 x 6" Finished Blocks

Fabric Yardage (based on 40"-wide fabric):

See *Choosing Fabrics* at right before selecting fabrics.

- 5/8 yard very light fabric
- 5/8 yard light fabric
- 5/8 yard light-medium fabric
- 5/8 yard medium fabric
- 5/8 yard medium-dark fabric
- 5/8 yard dark fabric
- 5/8 yard binding fabric
- 4 1/2 yards of backing fabric
- 56 x 80" of batting (or twin-size)
- Seam ripper

Create a quilt filled with light moving across the quilt by careful arrangement of fabrics from light to dark.

Choosing Fabrics

Make this using a single color or try a version in multiple colors. Tone-on-tone or solid-looking fabrics work best for the luster effect but print fabrics will work that have a fairly consistent value within the fabric.

To achieve the sense of light moving across the quilt, it is very important to have a large value range with the six fabrics from very light to very dark with a smooth transition in between.

Cutting Instructions

WOF = width of fabric (at least 40")

From each fabric value (very light to dark) 5/8-yard piece, cut:

8—2 1/2" x WOF strips

From binding fabric, cut:

7—2 1/2" x 42" binding strips

Assemble Blocks

Use a 1/4" seam allowance throughout.

1. Sew a strip set with one strip from each fabric, in value order from light to dark (**Diagram 1**). Press seams toward the darker fabric. The strip set should measure 12 1/2" wide. Make eight strip sets.
2. Subcut each strip set into six 6 1/2"-wide rectangles for a total of 48 rectangles. Each rectangle should be 6 1/2" x 12 1/2".

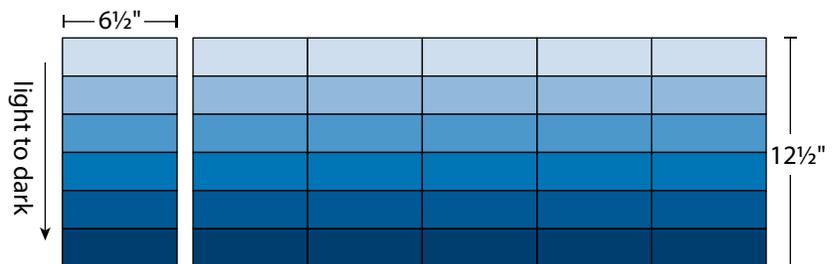


Diagram 1



TIP

Design Option: Instructions are given for the quilt shown, which uses six different fabrics that range from light to dark. If you would rather make scrappy blocks, you will need 48—2 1/2" x 6 1/2" strips in each value.

TIP: Start sewing from alternate sides of the strip set to keep the strip set from bowing.

- Unstitch the center seam of a rectangle to make two 6½" squares—one with very light/light/light-medium and one with medium/medium-dark/dark (Diagram 2). Repeat with six rectangles total.

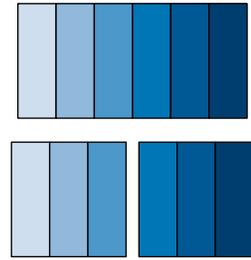


Diagram 2

Assemble Quilt Top

- Arrange the rectangles and squares in 12 rows on a design wall following the **Quilt Assembly Diagram** on page 4, or in whatever way looks good to you. It's your quilt!
- If following the diagram, note that only rectangles are used in odd rows, and both rectangles and squares are used in even rows. The odd rows will have Very Light to Dark, Dark to Very Light, Very Light to Dark, Dark to Very Light.

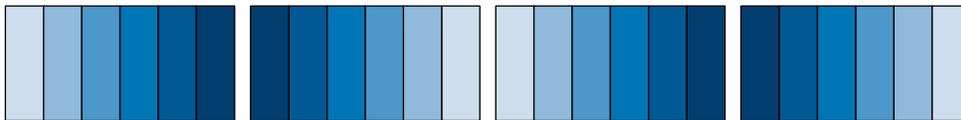


Diagram 3, Odd Rows

The even rows will have: Medium–Dark, Dark to Very Light, Very Light to Light-Medium, Light-Medium to Very Light, Very Light to Dark, Dark–Medium

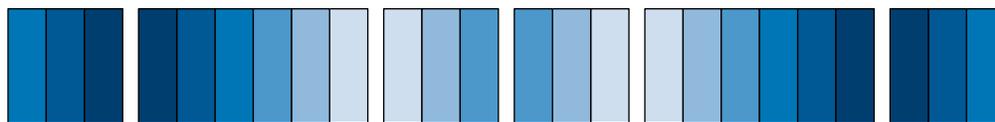


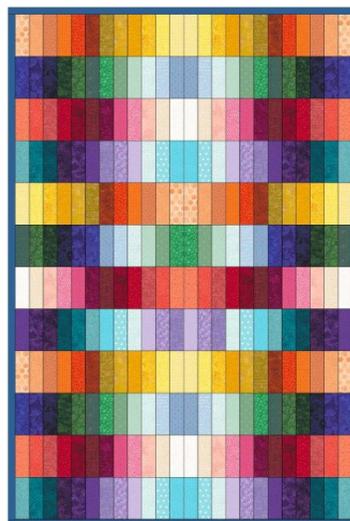
Diagram 4, Even Rows

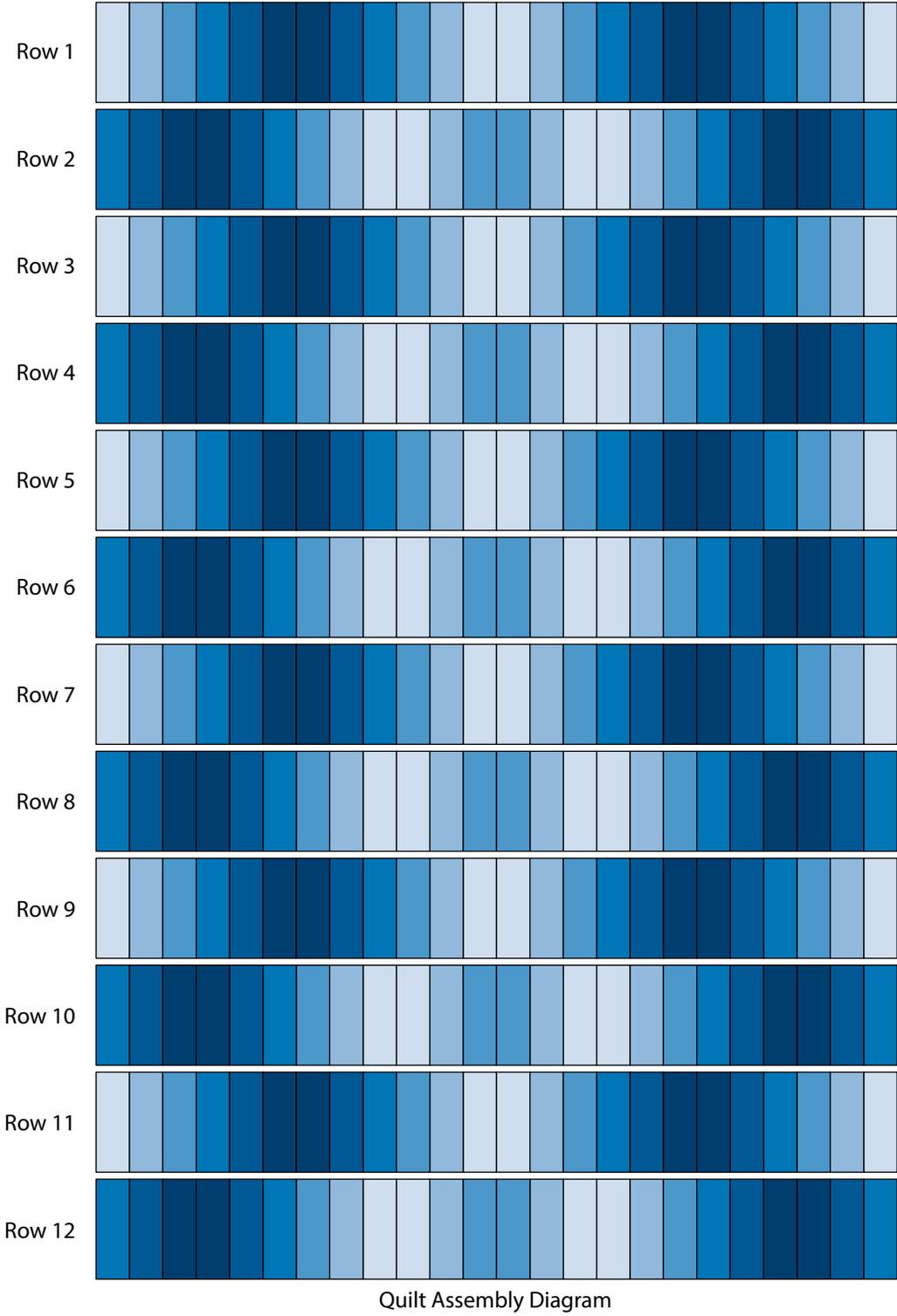
- Sew rectangles and/or squares together to make rows. Sew rows together to complete quilt top.



TIP

Another Design Option: Alternate warm and cool colored rows. You will still need 6 values each in 8 colors (designer Julia Graves used yellow, orange, red, pink, purple, blue, turquoise and green). You will only need one 2½" x WOF strip of each fabric for a total of 48 strips.





Finishing

Quilt as desired and bind.

Designer Julie Graves quilted the quilt with a simple wavy line quilting.

